

A SHORT
NARRATIVE

Of an Extraordinary
Delivery of Rabbits,

Perform'd by

Mr. JOHN HOWARD
Surgeon at *Guilford*.

Published by Mr. *St. André* Surgeon and Anatomist to his Majesty.

The SECOND EDITION.



L O N D O N,

Printed for JOHN CLARKE, at the *Bible* under the *Royal-Exchange*. MDCCLXXVII.

** Defoe 30. 727. S25S

THE Account of the Delivery of
the eighteenth Rabbet, shall be
Published by way of Appendix to this
Account.



A Short Narrative of an Extraordinary Delivery, &c.



Whatever may be the Fate of this Account, I think myself indispensably obliged to relate the Facts that I saw, and transacted myself, as also the Reasons which first induced me to enquire into the Truth of such an Extraordinary Event; but I here declare that I take on me no other Part of this Narration, than that in which I was actually concerned.

As Mr. *Howard* himself intends shortly to publish the whole Account, and prove every Circumstance of

it, by such Evidences as will put this Matter out of all possibility of Doubt, I must refer to him for several Particulars here omitted.

And as it will be impossible to judge impartially of this Fact, till the Evidences abovemention'd are produced, it cannot be doubted but all such Persons as are not governed by Prejudice, or some worse Motive, will suspend their Judgment till these Facts come to their Knowledge by a more certain way, than by flying Reports and Conjectures.

The first Intelligence I received of this Matter, was on the 5th Instant, when I saw a very particular ^a Account of a Woman living at *Godlyman* lately delivered of five Rabbits by Mr. *John Howard*, Surgeon at *Guilford* in *Sur-*

^a This Account was taken the 4th Instant at *Guilford* by Mr. *Davenant*.

rey, a Man of known Probity, Character, and Capacity in his Profession, who has practis'd Midwifery for above these thirty Years.

This Account was again confirmed by two ^bLetters from the said Mr. *Howard*, the first dated *Nov.* the 6th, 4 a Clock in the Afternoon; the Substance of which is, That from the 4th Instant to the 6th he had deliver'd the Woman of three more Rabbits; that the last of them had leap'd in her Belly, for the space of eighteen Hours, before it dy'd, and that the Moment it was taken away, another was perceiv'd to struggle for Birth.

The second is dated *Nov.* the ninth, and is here transcribed *verbatim*, viz.

SIR,

SINCE I wrote to you, I have taken or deliver'd the poor Wo-

^b The Letters were directed to Mr. *Davenant*.

man

man of three more Rabbits, all three half grown, one of them a dunn Rabbit; the last leap'd twenty three Hours in the *Uterus* before it dy'd. As soon as the eleventh Rabbit was taken away, up leap'd the twelfth Rabbit, which is now leaping. If you have any curious Person that is pleased to come Post, may see another leap in her *Uterus*, and shall take it from her if he pleases; which will be a great Satisfaction to the Curious: If she had been with Child, she has but ten Days more to go, so I do not know how many Rabbits may be behind; I have brought the Woman to *Guilford* for better Convenience.

I am, SIR,

Your humble Servant,

JOHN HOWARD.

*If you send a Person, let him
bring a Letter from you.*

These

These Letters, with others to Persons of Distinction in Town, which all agreed with the above-mentioned, were sufficient to make me desirous of being convinced personally of a Fact of which there was no Instance in Nature. Accordingly on the 15th Instant, I attended the Honourable Mr. *Molyneux*, Secretary to his Royal Highness the Prince of *Wales*, who was inclin'd to enquire into the Truth of this extraordinary Case, and desir'd me to go with him to *Guilford*: We arrived there at about half an hour after two in the Afternoon. We sent to Mr. *Howard*, who came to us immediately, and told us that the Woman was actually in Labour of the fifteenth Rabbet. We had not been at his House long, before the Nurse who attends the Woman came to call Mr. *Howard* to her, she being then in one of her labour Pains. She

She was lodged over against Mr. *Howard's* House, we found her dress'd in her Stays, sitting on the Bed-side with several Women near her. I immediately examined her, and not finding the Parts prepared for her Labour, I waited for the coming on of fresh Pains, which hapned in three or four minutes, at which time I deliver'd her of the entire Trunk, strip'd of its Skin, of a Rabbet of about four Months growth, in which the Heart and Lungs were contained with the Diaphragm entire. I instantly cut off a piece of them, and tried them in Water; they seem'd but just specifically lighter than it, and Mr. *Molyneux* pressing them to the Bottom they rose again very slowly; the Heart was very large, and its *Foramen Ovale* entirely open; the Lungs were remarkably small, and of a much darker Colour

than commonly the Lungs are of such Rabbits, who have breathed for some time. No Person but my self touch'd her, from the first time that I had examined her, to the time of her being deliver'd by me: Her Pains were pretty smart, and lasted for some Minutes; they went off the Moment she was deliver'd, and she seem'd chearful and easy; walked by herself from the Bed-side to the Fire, and sat on a Chair, where I examined her; and found, that in the Course of the *Fallopian Tubes*, there were some Inequalities, but more sensibly on the right side of her Belly; which made me conjecture that the Rabbits were bred in those Tubes, and only came into the *Uterus*, when they gave her those Agitations, which, according to the account of Mr. *Howard*, and of several other Persons,

were sensibly felt many Hours before their Exclusion.

As there was no Blood nor Water that issued from the *Vagina*, after I had delivered her, I again examined that Part, and found it not in the least inflamed or lacerated.

Upon examining her Breasts, I found Milk in one of them, but only a little yellowish *Serum* in the other.

Her Pulse was regular, but somewhat low ; her Tongue florid ; and upon asking for her Water, those about her answered, she made very little, and that they had not saved any.

She informed us, that in the Intervals of her Labour-Pains she was tolerably easy, and had no inclination for any sort of Food but Beef.

About two Hours after we had left her, they came again to call Mr. *Howard*,

Howard, she being at that Time in violent Labour-Pains ; but he and my self were gone to see the Mayor, who was then ill. The Nurse that attended her had delivered her, before our return, of the lower Part of a Male Rabbet, which we found totally with the Trunk, which I had before extract- ed : This was also strip'd of its Skin, and compleatly perfect in all its Parts, but more manifestly so in those of Generation.

In the *Rectum* of this Animal, which remain'd affix'd to the Body, we found five or six Pellets, much of the same Colour and Consistence as the common Dung of a Rabbet, little Bodies, like dried Fragments, being matted together with a mucous Matter. The like was observed in some other Parts of those R abbets, which had come away before. In the other Bowels there was

a dirty colour'd *Mucus*, of the Nature of that which is constantly found in the Bowels of all *foetus* Animals, and which in those that void their Excrements in Pellets, is commonly hard and dry; but the Matter in the Guts of the first Animal was of an entire different Kind, Colour and Substance from any of the rest, this being like little Filaments of an Animal Substance. In the Middle of the Gut *Ilium* of this Creature, I found a very slender, brittle, white Body, of the Length of half an Inch, which in Shape was like a very small Fish-bones.

Between six and seven the same Evening we again visited her; we had not been there long, before she fell into violent Labour-Pains, inso-much that four or five Persons cou'd hardly confine her to an Arm-Chair: As soon as the Violence of the first
Pain

Pain was somewhat abated, I examined her as before, and found the *Vagina* perfectly clear; and the Orifice of the *Uterus* so far closed, as not to admit of the little Finger. I constantly stood before her, nor did any Person whatsoever touch her, during that Time. After three or four very strong Pains, that lasted several Minutes, I delivered her of the Skin of the above-said Rabbet, rolled and squeezed up like a Ball, without the least Moisture or Blood about it; upon which she recover'd of her Pain.

From that Time I did not stir from before her, nor did I withdraw my Hand, but to deliver the Skin to a stander by.

About ten Minutes after, as near as I can judge, she again fell into Labour-Pains, though more sudden and short than the former; at which time

I again deliver'd her of the Head of the Rabbet, with the Furr on, part of one of the Ears being torn off, also without any Blood or Moisture: And as to these two Deliveries, and particularly as to the Circumstances of the latter, Mr. *Molyneux* having drawn up an Account of this whole Affair, for his own private Satisfaction; immediately upon our return to *London*, I beg leave to refer, for the Conviction he had, of the Truth thereof, to that Account which I have his leave to say, he will communicate to any Gentleman that is desirous to peruse it.

After this she soon grew easy, and Mr. *Howard* gave her a sleeping Draught.

About ten in the Evening we saw the Woman for the last Time, she being then in Bed: Having felt her Belly, I found it soft, except those Lumps, which still were in the same Place as before mentioned. Be-

Between the Times of visiting the Woman, we examined the several Rabbits, which were all kept separate in distinct Pots, with Spirits of Wine, in the Order that they were brought away.

The first Animal did not appear to be a perfect Rabbit, in all its Parts, three of the Feet being like the Paws of a Cat, the Stomach and Intestines like those Parts in the same Animal, as also the Shape and Figure of the *Thorax*; the Lungs and Heart of which were entirely out of their natural Situation, and squeezed out between the upper Ribbs and *Vertebræ* of the Neck, to which Parts they strongly grew and adhered. The Lungs of this Creature, had they been placed in their natural Cavity, would not have filled above a sixth Part of it: The Bones of this Creature being also

so different in Substance and Structure, from those of common Rabbits, the Head and one Paw only excepted.

All the other thirteen Animals were, in every Particular, like well formed, common, natural Rabbits, from the Size of two Months Growth to four. They were all broken in Pieces, and much in the same Manner. I shall describe these pieces in the Order that Mr. *Howard* told us they had commonly been brought away. First the four Paws with the Furr on; then the Liver and Intestines; the Trunk and Shoulders in another Part: In three or four Animals the Loyns separated from the *Os Sacrum*; and in the rest, the *Ischium* and Thighs in one piece, with the Loyns; the Head with its Furr, and lastly the Skin.

When all these several Parts were put together in their proper Order, they manifestly

manifestly made up, and appeared to belong to the above-mentioned Animals: But the *Viscera* were wanting in four or five of them. One remarkable Circumstance is, that most of these Animals were Females, as far as I could judge.

The Heart and Liver of those which we examined, appeared much larger than usual, when compared with the *Lungs* and *Intestines* which belonged to them; which on the contrary were extremely small. The *Cæcum* and *Colon*, which are remarkably large in Rabbits, appeared not to exceed in bigness the other Intestines, and the spiral Structure of the *Cœcum* was not yet unfolded; the Stomach was in like manner much contracted, and its *Pilorus* very streight and narrow. I cou'd not discover, in any of the Livers that I examin'd, the *Ductus Venosus*,

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nor

nor the implantation of the *Umbelical Vein* in that Organ.

I open'd three or four of the Hearts, and found in every one of them the *Foramen Ovale*, and the *Ductus Arteriosus* fully open, the two Trunks of the Descendant *Cava* united at the right Auricle of the Heart, agreeable to that Structure which is peculiar to natural Rabbits, and some few other Animals.

The Flesh of these Creatures, particularly of that which I extracted, had the smell of Rabbits just killed: and the Substance of their Bones were, in all respects, like the Bones of *Foetus Rabbits*; in several of them the *Epiphyses* were separated from the Bones themselves.

All the Heads which I examin'd had their compleat number of Teeth, four cutt before, and ten Grinders on
 2 each

each side, but they appeared not in the least worn nor stained, as the Teeth of other Rabbits are by Mastication.

The Nails of the Paws were most of them exceedingly sharp.

The Skins were all produced, being dress'd in Allum; they were of several Colours, as to their Furr, which was considerably long, and in one particularly (which was the fifth Rabbit,) that part which cover'd the Head was curled.

The Rabbit which I extracted weigh'd one and twenty ounces *Averdupoize*, making an allowance for one of the Paws not yet come away, and part of the *Viscera* that were lost.

From all these Considerations I was fully convinced, that at the same time that the external Appearance of these Animals was exactly like such Creatures, as must inevitably undergo the Chan-

ges that happen to adult Animals, by Food and Air, they carry'd within them the strongest Marks of *Foetus's*, even by such parts as cannot exist in an Adult, and without which a *Foetus* cannot possibly be supposed to live. This, I think, proves in the strongest Terms possible that these Animals were of a particular kind, and not bred in a natural Way ; nor will there be any doubt remaining (even with the least knowing in these matters) when those parts which are subservient to the Circulation of the Blood, and Nourishment between an adult Creature and its *Foetus* are brought away; which I am fully satisfied must shortly happen, or, if retained, be the Cause of this Woman's Death.

All these Facts were verify'd before his Majesty, on *Saturday Nov.* the 26th, by the Anatomical Demonstration of
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the first, the third, fifth, and ninth of these Animals, which were compared with the parts of two natural Rabbits, the one of the Age of four Months, and the other of five Days, Dr. *Steigertal* and Dr. *Tessier* being present.

I shall with all convenient speed publish the Anatomy of these Præternatural Rabbits, with their Figures taken from the Life, and compared with the Parts of Rabbits of the same growth, that the differences before mention'd may be fully understood.

In the mean while, I shall relate what appear'd in the Dissection of two Rabbits, which I performed in the Presence of Mr. *Molyneux*, the very Day that we returned from *Guilford*; the one was of four Months growth, and much of the Size of that which I had taken from the Woman, the other was barely fifteen Days old. The
Lungs

Lungs of the larger were, as nearly as I can judge, twenty times bigger in Capacity than those of the præternatural one, and the Lungs of the smaller were at least eight times the bigness of the fore-mentioned; both these were exceedingly different, in Colour and Consistence, from those of the præternatural Rabbet.

The *Foramen Ovale* of the smaller Rabbet was more than two thirds open, and that in the larger was so far closed, as but just to admit a very small Probe.

As to the Stomach and Intestines, the difference was so notoriously great from those we had examined, that even in the sucking Rabbet, the Stomach and *Cœcum* were at least three times larger than those parts in the præternatural ones.

I shall give no other Account of the
 Woman,

Woman, than what I think pertinent to this Subject: By the several Questions which I put to her, I was informed, that she was born and bred at *Godlyman*; She seem'd to be of a healthy strong Constitution, of a small size, and fair Complexion; of a very stupid and fullen Temper: She can neither write nor read: She has been married about six Years to one *Joshua Toft*, Junior, a poor Journey-man Clothier at *Godlyman*, by whom she has had three Children. The account she further gave of herself, was, that on the 23d of *April* last, as she was weeding in a Field, she saw a Rabbet spring up near her, after which she ran, with another Woman that was at work just by her; this set her a longing for Rabbits, being then, as she thought, five Weeks gone with Child; the other Woman perceiving she was uneasy, charg-

ed

ed her with longing for the Rabbet they cou'd not catch, but she deny'd it: soon after another Rabbet sprung up near the same place, which she endeavour'd likewise to catch. The same Night she dreamt that she was in a Field with those two Rabbets in her Lap, and awaked with a sick Fit, which lasted till Morning; from that time, for above three Months, she had a constant and strong desire to eat Rabbets, but being very poor and indigent cou'd not procure any. About seventeen Weeks after her longing, she was taken with a Flooding and violent Cholick Pains, which made her to miscarry of a Substance that she said was like a large lump of Flesh. Three Weeks after this, she was again taken with a Flooding, and voided another Substance like the former, but not so large. Notwithstanding these Accidents, she did

did not perceive her self to grow less, but continued with the Symptoms of a breeding Woman; insomuch that in the beginning of *September*, as she was working in the Hop-Ground, the Milk flow'd profusely from her Breasts; and as she had Children before, she thought she felt very differently from what she used to do. That on the 27th of *September* last she was taken very ill in the Night, and sent for her Mother in Law, who is a Midwife, and a neighbouring Woman, at which time she voided somewhat, which she took to be the Lights and Guts of a Pig, which her Husband carried to Mr. *Howard*, who some Days afterwards came to her and deliver'd her of some parts of the Animal first mention'd. After a Fortnight she was Churched, and thought all was over

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with

with her. She told me that her Husband had not cohabited with her, from the time of her first Miscarriage; and that after the first Rabbet was brought away, she had one regular Menstrual Evacuation.

The Account Mr. *Howard* gave was, in every material Circumstance, the same with the Woman's Relation; he said the Guts and Liver (as he thought) of a Rabbet were brought to him, but he never knew or heard of the Woman or her Friends till then, and that at first he took this to be intended as an Imposition upon him: but was at last with much Persuasion prevail'd on to go to assist her at *Godlyman*; that he did accordingly deliver her of part of the first Rabbet; that he attended her at *Godlyman*, till she was delivered of the ninth Rabbet; but

but that it being very inconvenient to attend her there, which made him neglect all his other Business, he had brought her to *Guilford* for better Conveniency.

Mr. *Howard* further related, that when she was delivered of one Rabbet, another was immediately felt in her Belly, struggling with such Violence, that the Motion thereof cou'd be sensibly felt and seen: That this Motion has sometimes been so strong, as to move the Bed-Clothes, and that it has lasted for twenty and above thirty Hours together. This particular Fact was unanimously agreed on, and attested by most of the People at *Guilford*, who have had the Curiosity to go to see her, and was confirmed to Mr. *Molyneux* and my self by above ten different Persons, who all

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seemed

seemed to be indifferent in this Matter.

Mr. *Howard* further told me, that, during this Motion, she was always free from Pain, and chearful; but that immediately upon the ceasing of it, she grew sick, and soon began to perceive her Labour-Pains drawing near; that upon her first Pains, the Bones of the Animal were sensibly heard to snap, and break by the violent convulsive Motions of the *Uterus*: This last Circumstance was likewise related by the same Persons that attested the former. He further added, that she had four breakings of Waters in the coming of the Rabbits, although in no great Quantity.

On *Wednesday* the 23^d Instant, I set out again for *Guilford*, with Mr. *D'Anteny*, being resolved to bring the
 2 Woman

Woman to Town, if there was any further prospect of more Rabbits. We arrived there at one in the Afternoon, and we found Mr. *Howard* standing at his Door, who told us, that she had been delivered of two more Rabbits since I had seen her, and that he hoped all was over, being he did not perceive in the *Uterus* any Motion as usual. I visited her several times that Day, and proceeded in every respect as before; her Pains, which, when I saw her the first Time, were mixed with intervals of Quiet and Rest, now were constant and fixed on the right Side of her Belly; her Pulse was more irregular; she described her Pain as if very coarse brown Paper was tearing from within her. Toward eight a Clock that Evening she voided a Piece of one of the Membranes of a *Placenta*,
rolled

rolled up like Parchment ; when it was extended, it measured about six Inches over. The next Morning, as I was packing up some of the Rabbits to bring to Town with me, Mr. *Howard* was sent for over, and Mr. *D'Anteny*, Dr. *Hampe*, and my self attended him. We found her in exquisite Torture, and after seven or eight Minutes, she was again disburthen'd of a Membrane, in Structure, Shape and Size exactly like the former. This was the first part that I saw come from her with some effusion of Blood. She did not seem in the least reliev'd after this Operation, her Pulse continu'd irregular, her Tongue white, and her Urine deeply stained with a *Mucus*, and livid *Blood*.

Mr.

Mr. *Ablers* having been at *Guilford*, by his Majesty's Order, (as Mr. *Howard* told us) to enquire into the Truth of this Fact, was fully convinced of it, as he himself declared, having assisted the greatest part of *Sunday* the 20th instant, at the Delivery of some of the 16th Rabbet, which he brought to Town with him. But as on this Occasion his Behaviour has been represented here different from what it was at *Guilford*, I cannot better vindicate that Gentleman's Character, than by subjoyning the following Affidavits, which were taken in the presence of Mr. *D'Anteny*, and Doctor *Hampe*. And that the Truth, so far as it relates to this Point, may be known, I think he is strictly obliged, in
 Justice

Justice to the Publick, forthwith to give an Account of what he saw and transacted there ; as I here have done.

London, Monday
Nov. 28. 1726.

N. ST. ANDRÉ.

I HAVE carefully read the above Narrative. Whether the Animals mentioned therein were præternaturally produced in this Woman, or that a Fraud is practicable in this Case, I do not take upon me to say: Gentlemen who are sufficient Judges will determine that Matter upon proper Evidence ; I can only certify, That I did draw up a Relation as is above-mentioned, which, in the most material Circumstances of Fact, agrees with this Narrative ; and I can further affirm, that I did not perceive the least Circumstance of Fraud in the Conduct of this Affair while I was at Guilford.

Nov. 29. 1726.

S. MOLYNEUX.

John Howard of *Guilford* in the *Guilford*
in Com' }
Surrey. County of *Surrey* Surgeon, ma-

‘ keth Oath, That on *Sunday* the twen-
 ‘ tieth Day of this instant Month of
 ‘ *November*, at or about ten a Clock
 ‘ in the Morning, he this Deponent
 ‘ was called home to a Person who
 ‘ told him his name was *Ablers*; that
 ‘ he was come to see *Mary Toft*;
 ‘ that he was ordered by his Majesty
 ‘ to attend her till all was over; and
 ‘ that he was Surgeon to his Majesty’s
 ‘ *German* Houfhold. And this De-
 ‘ ponent faith, That at that very time
 ‘ the Nurse of the faid *Mary Toft*
 ‘ came to acquaint this Deponent,
 ‘ that the faid *Mary Toft* was in La-
 ‘ bour: And thereupon this Depo-
 ‘ nent carried the faid Mr. *Ablers*
 ‘ over to her with him, and having
 ‘ touched her in his Prefence, desired
 ‘ him to examine her, for that he found
 ‘ all things ready for a Delivery.

' That Mr. *Ablers* did accordingly
 ' examine ; but this Deponent finding
 ' that he did not hasten her Delivery,
 ' nor that he proceeded as one who
 ' understands Midwifery should do,
 ' this Deponent directed him how to
 ' proceed in the Extraction, which
 ' after some time Mr. *Ablers* effect-
 ' ed, having brought away the Loins
 ' and inferior Parts of a Rabbet, of
 ' about three Months Growth. That
 ' after this Mr. *Ablers* told this De-
 ' ponent, and all the Persons present,
 ' that he was fully satisfied, and con-
 ' vinced of the Truth, and that he
 ' could have no Doubts after such
 ' Proofs. That at the same time he
 ' gave the Woman a Guinea, expres-
 ' sing great Satisfaction, and promising
 ' that he would procure her a Pen-
 ' sion from his Majesty : That he re-
 ' peated the same Things to Mr. *Tho.*
 ' *Howard* in this Deponent's Presence,
 ' nor

' nor did he offer any Objections or
 ' Doubts to them. That some time
 ' after Mr. *Ablers* desired to touch the
 ' Woman again; but as at the time
 ' before he had put her to a great
 ' deal of unnecessary Pain, this De-
 ' ponent desired him to forbear. That
 ' some time after Mr. *Ablers* said he
 ' was not well, and that he must
 ' hasten back to *London*. That this
 ' Deponent pressed him to stay, that
 ' he might assist at the bringing away
 ' of the Remainder of the Rabbet, but
 ' could not prevail on him; and soon
 ' after he accordingly set out for
 ' *London*, although it was almost
 ' dark.

JOHN HOWARD,

Jur. vicesimo quinto die Novembris,

Anno Reg. Regis Geo. &c. 13.

Anno Dom. 1726. coram

JOS. BURTT Mayor.

JAMES CLIFFTON.

Mary Toft, the Wife of *Joshua Toft*,
 of *Godlyman* in the County of
Surrey, Clothworker, and *Mary*
Costen Nurse to the said *Mary*
Toft, severally make Oath, That
 Mr. *Ablers* declared it was wonder-
 ful People would not believe a Fact
 that was so true as this appeared to
 him, and the said *Mary Toft* saith,
 That Mr. *Ablers* examined her
 Breasts, and found Milk in one of
 them.

The Mark of
Mary † Toft.

The Mark of
Mary × Costen.

Jur. Die & Anno supradict.
coram

JOS. BURTT Mayor.
 JAMES CLIFFTON.

Eliza-

Elizabeth Helmes of *Guilford* in the Guilford
in Com'
Surrey. County of *Surrey* Widow, maketh
 ‘ Oath, That on *Sunday* the twentieth
 ‘ Day of this instant *November*, at a-
 ‘ bout four in the Afternoon, she ask-
 ‘ ed Mr. *Ahlers*, who dined then at
 ‘ her House, bearing the Sign of the
 ‘ *White-Heart*, whether he believed this
 ‘ Account; and that his Answer was,
 ‘ That he fully did believe it. To which
 ‘ this Deponent reply’d; Then I hope,
 ‘ Sir, you will convince a great many
 ‘ Unbelievers when you return to *Lon-*
 ‘ *don*, as some other Gentlemen have
 ‘ already done; to which he said he
 ‘ should, as this Deponent apprehend-
 ‘ ed.

ELIZ. HELMES.

Fur' vicesimo quinto die Novembris
An. Reg. Regis Geo. &c. 13. Anno
Domini 1726. coram

JOS. BURTT Mayor.

JAMES CLIFFTON.

Olive

Olive Sands, the Wife of *John Sands*
of *Guilford* in the County of *Sur-*
‘ *rey* Sadler, maketh Oath, That she
‘ was constantly in the room on *Sun-*
‘ *day* the twentieth instant with Mr.
‘ *Ablers*, from eleven in the Morning
‘ to three in the Afternoon. That
‘ Mrs. *Helmes* called him to Dinner,
‘ that during the whole time the Wo-
‘ man was in violent Labour, and that
‘ he did not leave her in all that time
‘ but to go to Dinner. That this De-
‘ ponent saw Mr. *Ablers* examine the
‘ Woman’s Breasts, and found Milk in
‘ one of them, and that she heard him
‘ say he was ordered by his Majesty
‘ to attend the said Woman, *Mary*
‘ *Toft*, till it was all over. And fur-
‘ ther saith, that the said Mr. *Ablers*
‘ said he would endeavour to get the
‘ Woman a Pension from his Majesty,
or

‘ or Words to that effect, on his
 ‘ seeming satisfied of the Misery the
 ‘ Woman underwent.

OLIVE SANDS.

*Jur. Die & Anno
 supradict. coram*

Jos. BURTT Mayor.

JAMES CLIFFTON.

T *Thomas Howard* of *Guilford* in the Coun- *Guilford*
in Com^y
Surrey. }
 ‘ ty of *Surrey* Surgeon, maketh Oath,
 ‘ That on *Sunday* the twentieth Day of this
 ‘ instant Month of *November*, this Depon-
 ‘ nent went to see the poor miserable Wo-
 ‘ man *Mary Toft*, about three of the Clock
 ‘ in the Afternoon, where he found in her
 ‘ Chamber one Mr. *Ablers*, a Surgeon, who
 ‘ told this Deponent he was come to see
 ‘ her the said Woman, and that he was or-
 ‘ dered by his Majesty to attend her till ’twas
 ‘ all over. That the said Mr. *Ablers* him-
 ‘ self, in the aforesaid Chamber, shewed this
 ‘ Deponent the Loins and inferior Parts of a
 ‘ Rabbet, which he told this Deponent HE EX-
 ‘ TRACTED HIMSELF OUT OF THE UTERUS.
 ‘ That this Deponent asked him what his
 ‘ Opinion was in this Case, to which he an-
 ‘ swered, and told this Deponent, HE WAS

‘ FULLY.

' FULLY CONVINCED AND SATISFIED THAT
 ' IT CAME OUT OF THE UTERUS. That then
 ' the Deponent asked him, if 'twas possible
 ' it could be forced or thrust into the *Ute-*
 ' *rus*; to which his Answer was, No. That
 ' after this Deponent was with him at the
 ' *White-Hart-Inn* in *Guilford*, and there Mr.
 ' *Ablers* repeated part of what he had said
 ' before. That this Deponent there pressed
 ' him very much to stay all Night, to take a-
 ' way all the rest of the Parts of the aforesaid
 ' Rabbet: Upon which he said he had a Gid-
 ' diness, and a turning round in his Head,
 ' with a Pain on his Neck and Shoulders,
 ' and a soreness of his Throat, which made
 ' him very uneasy, and that he was resolved
 ' to go back to *London*. That the said Mr.
 ' *Ablers* gave the Woman Money, and told
 ' her he would procure her a Pension, and so
 ' took his leave of her. And this Deponent
 ' saith, that the said Mr. *Ablers* went from
 ' *Guilford* about five of the Clock in the Af-
 ' ternoon.

THO. HOWARD.

Jur. vicesimo septimo die Novembris

Anno Reg. Regis Geo. &c. 13. Anno

Domini, 1726. coram

JOS. BURTT Mayor.

JAMES CLIFFTON.